

Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A document relationship inspection apparatus which inspects a relationship between constituent elements of a first document and constituent elements of a second document, comprising:

a logical hierarchical structure parsing section which parses a logical hierarchical structure of a plurality of sentence blocks, including at least one sentence respectively, in the constituent elements of the first document and which parses a logical hierarchical structure of a plurality of sentence blocks, including at least one sentence respectively, in the constituent elements of the second document; and

a relationship detection section which detects the relationship between the sentence blocks of the first document and the sentence blocks of the second document on the basis of a parsing result from the logical hierarchical structure parsing section

wherein the relationship detection section comprises a first degree-of-similarity calculation section which calculates a predetermined degree of similarity between a sentence block related to the first document and a sentence block related to the second document for all combinations which are available among sentence blocks of the first and second documents, a relationship of a sentence block having a higher degree of similarity to sentence blocks at the same hierarchy being preferentially detected, and the first degree-of-similarity detection section being controlled to increase the degree of similarity of a sentence block which is near the sentence block, the relationship of which is detected in the document, and

wherein the degree of similarity of a block belonging to an unfixed block, the relationship of which is not yet determined not to exist, is lower than the degree of

similarity of a block belonging to a fixed block, the relationship of which can be determined.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): A document relationship inspection apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the relationship detection section detects the relationship related to a sentence block at an upper hierarchy and then detects the relationship of a sentence block at a lower hierarchy.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): A translation process apparatus which uses a parallel-translation dictionary in which a parallel translation between original sentences in an original related to a first document and translated sentences in the first document is registered to perform a translation process of an original related to a second document serving as a revised-edition document obtained by changing at least a part of the first document, comprising:

a document relationship inspection apparatus according to claim 1; and

a block translation process section which executes a translation process using the parallel-translation dictionary to at least a sentence block the relationship of which is detected by the document relationship inspection apparatus in sentence blocks included in the original related to the second document.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): A translation process apparatus according to claim 4, comprising

a first difference information display section which, when a translation result of the sentence block the relationship of which is detected by the document relationship inspection apparatus, displays first difference information representing a difference between the originals related to the first document and the second document.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): A translation process apparatus according to claim 4, comprising

a second difference information display section which displays second difference information representing a difference between a sentence block of an upper hierarchy to which the sentence block the relationship of which is detected by the document relationship inspection apparatus belongs and the original of the first document.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): A translation process apparatus according to claim 4, comprising:

a second degree-of-similarity calculation section which calculates a predetermined degree of similarity between the sentence block of the original related to the first document and the sentence block of the original related to the second document; and

a corresponding candidate process section which stores, as corresponding candidate blocks, sentence blocks having degrees of similarity of which are detected by the second degree-of-similarity calculation section and which are not less than a

predetermined threshold value, and displays the sentence blocks depending on dialogue with a user.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A document relationship inspection method which inspects a relationship between constituent elements of a first document and constituent elements of a second document, comprising the steps of:

parsing a logical hierarchical structure of a plurality of sentence blocks, including at least one sentence respectively, in the constituent elements of the first document and parsing a logical hierarchical structure of a plurality of sentence blocks, including at least one sentence respectively, in the constituent elements of the second document; and

detecting the relationship between the sentence block of the first document and the sentence block of the second document on the basis of a parsing result from the logical hierarchical structure parsing section

wherein the relationship detecting step comprises a first degree-of-similarity calculation section which calculates a predetermined degree of similarity between a sentence block related to the first document and a sentence block related to the second document for all combinations which are available among sentence blocks of the first and second documents, a relationship of a sentence block having a higher degree of similarity to sentence blocks at the same hierarchy being preferentially detected, and the first degree-of-similarity detection section being controlled to increase the degree of similarity of a sentence block which is near the sentence block, the relationship of which is detected in the document, and

wherein the degree of similarity of a block belonging to an unfixed block, the relationship of which is not yet determined not to exist, is lower than the degree of similarity of a block belonging to a fixed block, the relationship of which can be determined.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A document relationship inspection method according to claim 8, wherein the relationship detecting step ~~detection section~~ detects the relationship related to a sentence block at an upper hierarchy and then detects the relationship of a sentence block at a lower hierarchy.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A document relationship inspection method according to claim 8, wherein

in the relationship detecting step ~~detection section~~, a first degree-of-similarity calculation section calculates a predetermined degree of similarity between a sentence block related to the first document and a sentence block related to the second document, wherein a relationship of a sentence block having a higher degree of similarity in sentence blocks at the same hierarchy is preferentially detected, and the first degree-of-similarity detection section is controlled to increase the degree of similarity of a sentence block which is near the sentence block₁ the relationship of which is detected in the document.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A translation process method which uses a parallel-translation dictionary in which a parallel translation between original sentences

in an original related to a first document and translated sentences in the first document is registered to perform a translation process of an original of a second document serving as a revised-edition document obtained by changing at least a part of the first document, comprising the steps of:

detecting a relationship between a sentence block included in the original related to the second document and a sentence block original related to the ~~first~~ first document by a document relationship inspection method according to claim 8; and

causing a block translation process section to execute a translation process using the parallel-translation dictionary to at least a sentence block the relationship of which is detected by the document relationship inspection method in sentence blocks included in the original related to the second document.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A translation process method according to claim 11, comprising

when a translation result of the sentence block the relationship of which is detected by the document relationship inspection method is displayed, displaying first difference information representing a difference between the originals of the first document and the second document.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): A translation process method according to claim 11, comprising

displaying second difference information representing a difference between a sentence block of an upper hierarchy to which the sentence block the relationship of

which is detected by the document relationship inspection method belongs and the original of the first document.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): A translation process method according to claim 11, further comprising:

calculating a predetermined degree of similarity between the sentence block of the original related to the first document and the sentence block of the original related to the second document, and

storing sentence blocks the degrees of similarity of which are calculated via the calculating step and which are not less than a predetermined threshold value as corresponding candidate blocks to display the sentence blocks depending on dialogue with a user.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): An apparatus including a central processing unit to execute a document relationship inspection program which inspects the relationship between constituent elements of a first document and constituent elements of a second document, causing the central processing unit to realize

a logical hierarchical structure parsing function which parses a logical hierarchical structure of a plurality of sentence blocks, including at least one sentence respectively, in the constituent elements of the first document and which parses a logical hierarchical structure of a plurality of sentence blocks, including at least one sentence respectively, in the constituent elements of the second document; and

a relationship detection function which detects the relationship between the sentence block of the first document and the sentence block of the second document on the basis of a parsing result from the logical hierarchical structure parsing section

wherein the relationship detection function comprises a first degree-of-similarity calculation section which calculates a predetermined degree of similarity between a sentence block related to the first document and a sentence block related to the second document for all combinations which are available among sentence blocks of the first and second documents, a relationship of a sentence block having a higher degree of similarity to sentence blocks at the same hierarchy being preferentially detected, and the first degree-of-similarity detection section being controlled to increase the degree of similarity of a sentence block which is near the sentence block, the relationship of which is detected in the document, and

wherein the degree of similarity of a block belonging to an unfixed block, the relationship of which is not yet determined not to exist, is lower than the degree of similarity of a block belonging to a fixed block, the relationship of which can be determined.